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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/027,965	12/19/2001	Reynaldo Gil	24298-81101	1405

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EXAMINER

MCALLISTER, STEVEN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3627	

3627

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application N . 10/027,965	Applicant(s) GIL ET AL.	
	Examiner Steven B. McAllister	Art Unit 3627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 March 2006.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-6,13-17 and 23-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 7-12 and 18-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 7-9, 12, and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mowery et al (5,983,198).

Mowery shows sending a request from a network for real time data comprising, for instance, inventory level of a partner; receiving the real-time data from the partner; and generating a real-time report using the data providing visibility into the status of the partner.

As to claim 18, it is noted that Mowery shows a database maintaining context information, e.g., information regarding levels at which to provide additional inventory; a processor coupled to the database, wherein the processor is operable to perform the claimed steps, as discussed above.

As to claims 8 and 9, Mowery shows that the data involves the status of a transaction, comprising whether or not additional inventory is required by the partner; and reference data comprising the partner's inventory level.

As to claim 12, Mowery shows validating the real-time data against the context data, comprising validating it against the minimum inventory level data to determine when to send additional inventory.

As to claim 19, Mowery shows a processor operable to generate a GUI.

As to claims 20 and 21, Mowery shows an alert report to notify when the task of delivering additional inventory must be accomplished.

As to claim 22, Mowery shows an inventory report relating to partner inventory.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Mowery.

Mowery shows converting the real-time data into a format usable by the network system, since the system uses the data.

Alternatively, Mowery shows all elements except converting the data into data usable by the network. However, to convert data from an outside system to data usable by another system is notoriously old and well known in the art. It would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to do so in order to allow the system to successfully use the information.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mowery.

Mowery shows all elements of the claim except converting the data into XML. However, converting data into an XML format is notoriously old and well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to do so in order to provide for ease of manipulation in the database.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/16/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the rejection over Mowery are not proper because Mowery does not relate to a transaction. The examiner respectfully disagrees.

It is noted that the meaning of transaction is not limited to a financial or commercial transaction between two parties. It can refer to a transaction within a group (such as within the customer, the transaction of sending the resource from the holding tank to the plant) and it can refer to non-financial transactions. In this context, the data is related to the transaction within the customer as mentioned above.

Next, even if it is assumed that the transaction must be a financial one between the customer (the partner) and another party (the vendor delivering the resource to the customer – the enterprise), the requests for data are for data relating to a transaction.

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They are for inventory levels at the customer, and those inventory levels are related to the transaction because upon reaching a certain inventory level the enterprise delivers and sells more product to the customer. The reports are likewise related to the transaction.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven B. McAllister whose telephone number is (571) 272-6785. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander G. Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Steven B. McAllister

Steven B. McAllister
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3627

STEVE B. MCALLISTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER